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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/829,866	09/829,866 04/10/2001 Timothy Jay Smith		9D-EC-19759	7398
John S. Beulicl	==		EXAM	INER
Armstrong Tea			- JARRETT,	SCOTT L
One Metropoli Suite 2600	tan Square	•	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
St.Louis, MO	53102		3623	
SHORTENED STATUTOR	RY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVER	Y MODE
3 MO	ONTHS	03/30/2007	PAP	ER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/829,866	SMITH ET AL.
5 5	Examiner	Art Unit
The MAILING DATE of this communication app	Scott L. Jarrett	3623
Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 16(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time rill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).
Status		
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 Fe	ebruary 2007.	
2a) This action is FINAL . 2b) ⊠ This	action is non-final.	•
3) Since this application is in condition for allowan		
closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	53 O.G. 213.
Disposition of Claims		
4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or		
Application Papers		
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) access applicant may not request that any objection to the or Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction of the original transfer of or th	epted or b) objected to by the Edrawing(s) be held in abeyance. See on is required if the drawing(s) is obj	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). lected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119	•	
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents 2. Certified copies of the priority documents 3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	s have been received. s have been received in Applicati ity documents have been receive (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No ed in this National Stage
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	ate

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.1 14, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.1 14. Applicant's submissions filed on December 22, 2006 and February 14, 2007 have been entered.

Applicant's amendment amended claims 1-20. Currently claims 1-20 are pending.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 3623

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Page 3

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over User's Guide to ROADNET 5000 (1996).

Regarding Claims 1, 10 and 19 ROADNET teaches a goods delivery system and method having at least one delivery agent location, address and delivery zone comprising:

- getting delivery agent (driver or truck) information of a delivery agent that delivers a plurality of goods (onboard, driver performance, truck/route summary, driver survey; Paragraph 1, Page 6.71; Pages 6.34, 6.36, 7.19; Paragraph 1, Page 4.25; Table on Page 4.26; Figure on Page 4.25);
- calculating a first delivery capacity comprising a first volume (cube, equivalency, size) defined by a plurality of slots each slot defining a volume (route, vehicle and load capacities, different categories of sizes and categories; Pages 1.47, 1.68, 6.64; Steps 4-5, Page 4.36; Table on Page 2.51, Rows 11-13; Table on Page 3.22, Last Row; Table on Page 2.58, Rows 2, 9-10; Tables 7.18, 7.57; 7.61; Figures on Pages 4.17, 7.42, 7.44);

Art Unit: 3623

Page 4

- assigning a work unit () to each of the plurality of goods indicative of the portion of volume defined by a number of slots ("You, as the user, define the size class unit that you enter for the vehicle capacity. For example, you may enter a capacity number in terms of pounds, cubic fee, cartons, etc.", Step 3, Page 2.82; cubes, size/capacity equivalency, standard order size, etc.; Pages 2.82, 4.66-4.66, 6.53; Steps 4-5, Page 4.36; Figures 4.65, 4.77; Tables 2.53, 2.57, 4.68; Table 2.58, Rows 2, 9, 10; Table 6.60, Last Row) used to delivery each good (cube, equivalency factor, size categories) wherein the work unit is based on at least one of a size of the good and time to deliver/install goods (service time: Pages 2.83-2.85; Tables 4.18; 4.60, 4.61, 4.114, 6.61; Table 4.11, Row 3; Table 6.61, Row 2; Figures 1.12, 1.19, 4.17, 6.59; i.e. ROADNET schedules goods delivery using a combination of service time, time window, capacity/size/equivalent size constraints/parameters);

- calculating a portion of the delivery capacity used based on the assigned work units ("Bar graphs in the window are in proportion to each other. For instance, your largest load will have the longest graph for load. Your farthest account will have the longest graph for distance. The amount of blue used in a shaded box, such as load, shows how much of the truck is full. The proportion of the blue box that is just an outline shows how much of the truck remains empty. A red box indicates that the route is over the limit for that category." Paragraph 3. Page 2.16; Table 7.4, Row 11; Table 2.51, Rows 11-13; Table 7.4, Row 11; Table 2.58, Row 2; Tables 2.53, 2.56; Figures 7.42, 7.43, 7.43);

Art Unit: 3623

Page 5

- calculating usage information for the delivery agent (truck, driver) based on a single day and a delivery zone (Paragraph 3, Page 216; route capacity: Page 1.47; Table 2.53, Last Row; Table 2.109; vehicle capacity: Page 6.64; Table 1.68, Rows 2,4; Tables 2.51, 7.61; Figure on Page 7.62; resource utilization: Pages 6.20, 7.41; Table 7.38);
- displaying (reporting) a periodic calendar format (table, matrix) illustrating the delivery agent information and delivery agent (truck, driver) statistics (numbers) for a respective zone for each day in a respective period wherein the format is further adapted to have drill-down capability to display additional daily details (time windows by day: Page 6.62; Table 7.57; Figure on Page 7.58; month/daily driver/route summary/performance reports: Last Paragraph, Page 1.27; Step 5, Page 1.79; Step 6, Page 6.17; Pages 6.12-6.13; 6.20, 6.24, 6.32);
- determining whether a first delivery capacity (time, truck capacity, route time, stops, etc.) of the delivery agent (driver, truck) during a first period (window, day, route, time, etc.) is exceeded (route planning, insert/move/delete stops; Page 1.70; Paragraph 3, Page 2.16; Paragraph 1, Page 2.82; Pages 2.20-2.24; Figure on Page 2.27);
- determining whether a second delivery capacity of the delivery agent during a second period is exceeded (route planning, insert/move/delete stops; Page 1.70; Paragraph 3, Page 2.16; Paragraph 1, Page 2.82; Pages 2.20-2.24; Figure on Page 2.27); and
- determining to delivery the goods during the second period upon determining that the first delivery capacity is exceeded and the second delivery capacity is not

exceeded, wherein the goods are configured to utilize the entire second delivery capacity (route planning, insert/move/delete stops; Page 1.70; Paragraphs 2-3, Page 2.16; Paragraphs 1, Page 2.82; Pages 2.20-2.24; Figure on Page 2.27).

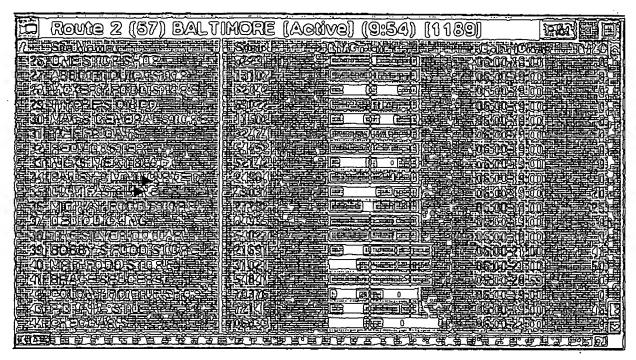


Figure 1: Route Window, Figure on Page 2.23, emphasis added



Column Name	Description
RSC Number	Identifier number for route assigned by ROADNET 5000
Description	Description or name of route
Number of Stops	Number of stops on route
Start Time	Delivery start time of route
Run Time	Total run time for route not including breaks, etc.
Run Time (Graphical)	Graphical display of Run Time
Driver _	Driver ID number
Vehicle ID	Vehicle ID number
Depot Number	Depot identifier number
Load Size 1	First user-defined unit of measurement
Load Size 2	Second user-defined unit of measurement
Load Size 3	Third user-defined unit of measurement
Load (Graphical)	Graphical representation of vehicle capacity
Load Priority	Priority for loading given to a particular route/routes
Route Distance	Total length of route
Distance (Graphical)	Graphical display of route distance
Extra Distance	Additional distance above that allotted through sequencing
Regular Time	Time at which driver overtime starts to be calculated
Service Time	Length of service time

2.51

Figure 2: Route Information, Table on Page 2.51, emphasis added

User's Guide

	(page 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	· ·	
	Field	Description is the state of the	
	General Defaults	•	
	Depot	Depot name	l
	Travel Time Model	Travel time model number and description	
	Vehicle Type	Type of vehicle most commonly used	
	Site Defaults		
	Open .	Site open time	١.
	Close	Site close time	ļ ·
	Time Window Factor	Importance of making time window	l
	Zone	Zone site is located in	┝╺╵
	State	State site is located in	1
	Area Code	Area code of telephone number of site	
==	 		=:
	Service Times	1	
	Fixed	Fixed service time (with & without helper)	
	Variable	Variuable service time (with & without helper)	1
	Bulk Fixed	Fixed service time of bulk delivery	
	Bulk Variable	Variable service time of bulk delivery	
	Minimum Bulk Qty	Minimum quantity to be considered bulk	ŀ
	Size Alias		F <i>=</i> .
	Size1	Assigned name of Size1 quantity	
	Size2	Assigned name of Size2 quantity	l
	Size3	Assigned name of Size3 quantity	
	Unit of Measure	F	
	Size1	Sets Size1 default unit of measure	
	Size2	Sets Size1 default unit of measure Sets Size2 default unit of measure	
	Size3	Sets Size3 default unit of measure	
	1345		
	Unit of Cost		
	Size1	Sets Size1 default unit of cost	
	Size2	Sets Size2 default unit of cost	
	Size3	Sets Size3 default unit of cost	
	Unit of Service		
	Sizel	Sets Size1 default unit of cost	
	Size2	Sets Size2 default unit of cost	
	Size3	Sets Size3 default unit of cost	
	Variable service time in:	Adjusts measurement of variable service time	
		(Tenths, hundredths, or thousandths of	
		minutes)	
	1	immones)	

Figure 3: System defaults, Table spanning Pages 4.11-4.12, emphasis added

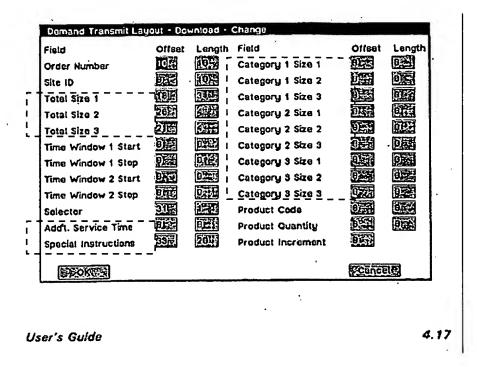


Figure 4: Order information/fields, Figure Page 4.17, emphasis added

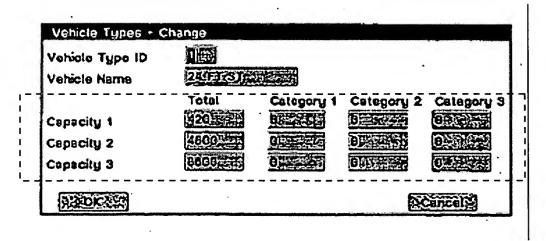


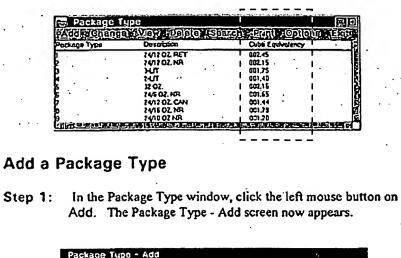
Figure 5: Vehicle type information, Figure Page 4.38, emphasis added

Add Ch	enge <u>V</u> iew	Delete	Search	Print	Options	Exit	
Corrgory Size	Description		Display I	teader	Equivalenty	Pochage 5	10
71	Frozen Orbo				000.10	м	٦
12 "	Frozen Places				000.15	M	- 1
13	Frozen Weight				001.25	L	- 1
21	Retrig Cupp	٠.			000,10	M	- 1
22	Ratio Pieces				000.15	u	- 1
23	Retrig Weight				001.25	L	Į
וכ	Dry Cube				000.10	ŭ	ı
32	Dy Places				000.15	ii ii	ı
33	Dry Weight				001.25	ī	

Figure 6: Goods category sizes, equivalency, package size, Figure Page 4.65

Field Name	Description	Valid Entries
Category Size	Category and size package for this equivalency.	11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, or 33 - relating to Category 1/Size 1, Category 1/Size 2, Category 1/Size 3, etc.
Description	Definition for or description of this package.	Up to 15 characters.
Display Header	What you want the system to call this equivalency.	Up to 5 characters.
Equivalency	Factor (in hundredths) for the system to use to convert this category/size to the standard package dimension.	4 digits.
<i>= = = = = = =</i> Package Size	The system does not use this field; however, you may enter a value to remind yourself of the size of this package.	Here are some suggestions: S - Small M - Medium L - Large X - Extra Large C - Cans

Figure 7: Goods category sizes, equivalency, Table Page 4.68, emphasis added



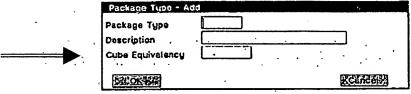


Figure 8: Package type cube equivalency, Figures Page 4.101, emphasis added

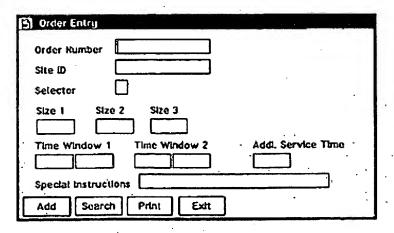


Figure 9: Order entry window, sizes, time window, additional service time, Figure Page 6.44

Art Unit: 3623

Menu Path: Maintenance-> Initial Setups-> Vehicle Types

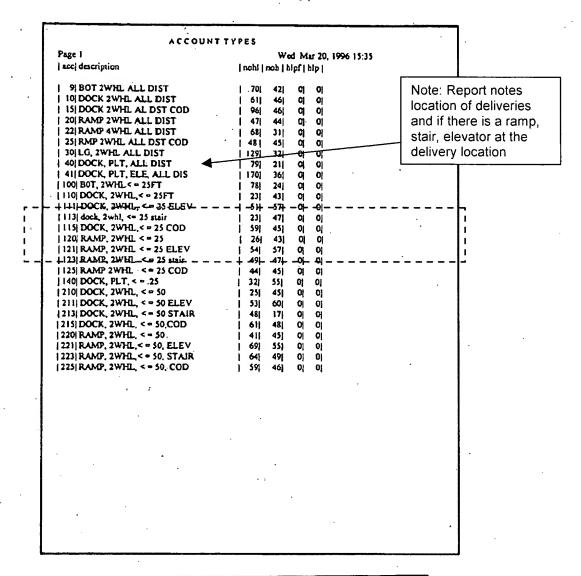
₩ Ve	hicle Type	YS		1000				J. E
Add	Change	Ylew	<u>D</u> elete	Search	Print	Options	Ext	
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1	24FT 5T	•	. 420		0		0	T
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)	160 🖙		400		Ó		0	
20	160 et		400		O		Ŏ	
60	Milk Truck		6700		0		0	- 5
			. , 1= ~_1	171-				13

Step 2: On the Vehicle Types window menu, click the left mouse

Figure 10: Vehicle Capacity - total and by goods category, Figure Page 6.65

Art Unit: 3623

ccount Types Report Example



Header	Explanation
a∝ .	Account type ID number
description	Description details
nohl	No helper fixed service time
noh	No helper variable service time
hlpf	Helper fixed service time
hlp	Helper variable service time

Figure 11: Accounts report, Page 7.2, emphasis added

Art Unit: 3623

Actual vs. Projected by Route Report

This is a description and example of an Actual vs. Projected by Route Report:

•	Field	Explanation	
	Route #/Name	ID # and name of route	
	Driver	Name of driver	
	Day	Day of week	
	Stops	Number of stops	
	RunTime	Total amount of run time	L
ı_ -	Service	Total amount of service time	
·-	Travel	Total amount of travel time	
	Dist.	Total distance of route	
	Units	Total # of units delivered on route	
	#Breaks/Time	Total # of breaks and time length	
r -	Actual % of Projected Run Srvc Trvl Dist Units	% above or below projected run time % above or below projected service time % above or below projected travel time % above or below projected distance % above or below projected total units	

Figure 12: Route Report, Page 7.3

Art Unit: 3623

Category Sizes Listing

This is a description and example of a Category Sizes Listing:

Header	Explanation
tr	Category size ID number
description	Description details
scribe	Screen display header
equiv .	Equivalency (in hundredths)
p	Package size

Category Sizes Listing Example

je 1		Wed M	ar 20	, 1996		15:38
ftr ·	description	įscrhe	lequ	vit	[P]	
[11	Frozen Cube	1	1	10	[M]	
112	Frozen Pieces	İ	ĺ	15	M	
113		1 .	Ì	125	ILI	
21	Refrig Cube	1.	İ	10	M	
22	Refrig Pieces	i	İ	15	M	
23	Refrig Weight	İ	1	125	ILI	
131	Dry Cube	1	1	10	MI	
32	IDry Pieces	ı	1	15	M	
133	[Dry Weight	i	1	125	ILI	

Figure 13: Category Size Listing report, Page 7.7

Art Unit: 3623

esource Utilization Report

us is a description and example of a Resource Utilization Report:

ield	Explanation
ate	Date of delivery
of Vehicles	Number of trucks used on delivery day
nits Del'd	Number of pieces delivered
, Сар	Percent of capacity used on vehicles
vg Units/ Veh Stop Dist	Average number of cases delivered by truck Average number of cases delivered by stop Average number of cases delivered by mile
ravel Hours Cost	Total hours traveled Total travel cost
rvice Hours Cost	Total service hours Total service cost
egular Cost	Regular cost
T Cost	Overtime cost
ehicle Cost	Cost for truck
stal Cost	Total of all costs
vg Cost per Unit Dist Stop	Average cost per piece Average cost per mile/km Average cost per stop
Stops	Number of stops on route

Figure 14: Resource utilization report, percent of vehicle capacity used, Page 7.38, emphasis added

Art Unit: 3623

		Mar 20, 1996 \$1:56						ROUTE SUMMARY STATISTICS - PROJECTED														Del 03-15-96 Pg 1							
Ualt of Cost Size1 Ualt of Measure Size1 Ualt of Service Size1																													
Route (D		Service		Total	Ha		Stops	Veb ID				Size?	Stre	Reg Cost		O/T Cost	Veb Cest		dd 1 Cast	Total Cast		Units/ Stop							
51		6:28						0	114	10%	592	14830	5925	5 168	3	88 :	137	- † <u>-</u>	38	5 431	50	31	5	0.72					
52	5:16	6:17	0:00	11:33	3:03	97	19	0	1 13	13%;	559	13725	5590	\$ 168	3	82 9	127	5	38	\$ 415	48	25	\$	0.74					
. 53	4:16	6:15	0:00	10:31	2:01	69	72,	0	11	8%1	499	12475	4990	\$ 168	5	54 3	91	5	44	3 357	47	22	\$	0.71					
54	4:45	6:39	0:00	11:24	2:54	75	22	•	13	12%1	558	20250	5580	\$ 168	3	78 5	98	5	44	\$ 388	48	25	\$	0.69					
55	4:33	6:40	0:00	11:13	2:43	72	22	•	13	13%!	567	14450	562þ	\$ 168	3	73 9	95	5	44	3 380	50	25	\$	0.67					
56	4:40	6:32	0:00	11:12	Z:42	\$0	19	0	1 14	13%!	601	15000	601 þ	3 168	\$	73 9	106	\$	38	3 385	ເນ	31	\$	0.64					
57	4:13	6:46	0:00	10:59	2:29	62	21	0	1 34	% (595 	14900	5950	3 168	\$	67 :	8.1	\$	42	\$ 360	54	28	\$	0.60					
Avg	4:42	6:31	0:00	11:13	2:43	80	20		13	4%1	566	15090	5665	\$ 168	5	73 9	105	5	41	S · 388	50	27	8	0.45					
Low	4:13	6:15	0:90	10:31	2:01	62	19		11	5%!	499	12475	4990	\$ 168	\$	54 5	i as	5	38	\$ 357	47	22	\$	0.60					
High	i	6:46	1						Ĺ	_ 1	!		. !	\$ 168		•	B 137	\$	44	\$ 431	54	-	-	0.74					
1	33:00	45:37	0:00					•	1								\$ 73	-+- 7	5 281	\$ 271	6 50	27	*. \$	0.68					

Figure 15: Route Summary Statistics, Table Page 7.42, emphasis added

While ROADNET teaches defining service times wherein the service times are determined/defined for each of goods, product categories, accounts and sites account based on a plurality of factors including fixed service time, variable service time, stairs, elevators, bulk deliveries, service time based on past service times (Last Paragraph, Page 4.128; Paragraphs 1-3, Page 4.129) and the presence/absence of a helper and that orders include special delivery instructions (Table 4.60; Figure 7.2); ROADNET does not expressly teach that the work unit is based on a degree of difficulty in installing the good as claimed.

Official notice is taken that it is old and well known that goods, for example major appliances, require delivery and installation wherein not all major appliances are the same size nor require the same installation procedures (time, complexity, skills,

Art Unit: 3623

equipment, etc.). Further it is a common business practice to account for the installation requirements of the goods to be delivered and installed either expressly or intuitively.

Major appliances (white goods) vary widely in size, weight, and installation complexity (steps, tools, skills, location, etc) wherein even the same appliance may have different installation requirements; for example installing a microwave could be as simple as placing it on a countertop or as complex as requiring outside venting as part of a range top.

Further it is not uncommon for home delivery service providers to ask customers a series of questions regarding the delivery and installation of their newly purchase appliance; for example installers may asks customers such as is there an old appliance that needs to be hauled away or where is the new appliance being installed (second floor, apartment steps, basement, etc.) or does the customer have the necessary space or equipment (water, electric, etc.) for the major appliance; wherein installers are implicitly attempting to gauge the difficulty of delivering and installing the major appliance in order to better understand the installation/delivery requirements (time, skills, tools, etc.).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the system and method for goods delivery management as taught by the ROADNET with its ability to schedule delivery capacity based on a plurality of product/goods, category, account and site parameters including size, service time (fixed/flexible, additional) as well as the presence/absence of a helper would have been

benefited from taking into account the "degree of installation difficulty" in view of the teachings of official notice.

Regarding Claims 2, 9, 11, 18 and 20 ROADNET teaches a delivery system and method wherein the delivery agent statistics includes at least one of the following (selected from the group consisting of): delivery capacity, reserved capacity, deliveries, default capacity, override capacity, capacity usage or percent capacity usage (resource utilization report: Pages 6.12, 6.21, 7.41, 7.43; driver performance report: Pages 1.17, 6.24, 6.33, 7.18; Table 6.26; percept capacity: Table 7.4, Row 11; Figures 7.42, 7.43, 7.44; graphical load: Page 2.16; Table 2.56; Table 2.58, Row 2; Table 2.51, Rows 11-13).

Further it is noted that the labels used to describe the various delivery agent statistics merely represent non-functional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited nor do they alter the recited structural elements. The recited method steps would be performed the same regardless of the specific labels used to describe the calculated delivery agent statistics. Further, the structural elements remain the same regardless of the specific labels used to describe the calculated delivery agent statistics. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, see In re Gulack, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); In re Lowry, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994); MPEP 2106.

Art Unit: 3623

Regarding Claims 3 and 12 ROADNET teaches a delivery system and method further comprising calculating the deliveries scheduled for the delivery agent (route planning; route editor, stops; Paragraphs 2-4, Page 2.16; Pages 2.20-2.24, 2.36-2.40).

Regarding Claims 4 and 13 ROADNET teaches a delivery system and method further comprising calculating the percent capacity utilization per day for the delivery agent (Page 2.16; minimum percent full, Second Table, Row 4, Page 1.68; percent capacity: Table 7.4, Row 11; Figures 7.42, 7.43, 7.44; graphical load: Table 2.51, Rows 11-13; Table 7.61; Figure 7.62; Page 6.64).

Regarding Claims 5 and 14 ROADNET teaches a delivery system and method further comprising marking (indicating, presenting, identifying, flagging, tagging, etc.) out of capacity conditions (Paragraphs 3-4, Page 2.16; Figure 2.27).

Regarding Claims 6 and 15 ROADNET teaches a delivery system and method wherein the delivery agent information includes at least one of the following (selected from the group consisting of): location, name, code, schedule name or zone group name (Paragraph 1, Page 4.25; Pages 1.70-1.72, 4.87-4.88, 6.34, 6.71, 7.19; Tables 1.67, 2.57, 4.11, 4.26, 4.47-4.51).

Application/Control Number: 09/829,866 Page 21

Art Unit: 3623

Further it is noted that the labels used to describe the various delivery agent information merely represent non-functional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited nor do they alter the recited structural elements. The recited method steps would be performed the same regardless of the specific labels used to describe the various delivery agent information. Further, the structural elements remain the same regardless of the specific labels used to describe the various delivery agent information. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, see *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994); MPEP 2106.

Regarding Claims 7-8 and 16-17 ROADNET teaches a delivery system and method further comprising displaying the delivery agent statistics on a monthly and daily basis (Step 5, Page 1.79; Pages 6.20, 6.21, 6.32; Table, Row 1, Page 6.19).

Application/Control Number: 09/829,866 Page 22

Art Unit: 3623

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Nicholls et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,485,369, teach an order delivery management system and method.
- Collins et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,632,404, teach a system and method for scheduling the delivery of services in response to service requests wherein the service time (duration) required to install and deliver the requested service/product varies based on a plurality of factors.
- Fitzgerald, U.S. Patent Publication No. 5,789,950, teaches a system and method for determining the duration of activities (tasks) based on previous activities.
- Weigel et al., Applying GIS and OR Techniques to Solve Sears Technician-Dispatching and Home-Delivery Problems (1999), teach a goods (major appliances) delivery management system and method.
- Partyka et al., On the Road to Service (2000), teach several goods delivery systems and methods (home delivery of appliances) comprising mixed pickup and deliver, variable service/delivery times (e.g. appliance repair), delivery agent specialization (driver skills), delivery time windows, vehicle routing/scheduling, route planning, geocoding, driver assignment and real-time vehicle/delivery tracking.
- Hodl, Wal-Mart Move Could Shift Major Appliance Landscape (2000), teaches a partnership between General Electric appliances and Wal-Mart for selling, home delivery and home installation of major appliances wherein GE manages the delivery

and installation process. Hodl further teaches the Home Depot also sells, delivers and installs home appliances wherein Home Depot charges customers separately for door-to-door delivery and in-home installation.

- Baeb, Rivals aiming to pull plug on Sears' appliance push (2000), teaches Sears ability to sell, delivery and install home appliances. Baeb teaches that the traditional model for selling major appliances is a full-service model that includes the delivery and installation of the newly purchase appliance in the customer's home.

Baeb further teaches a joint venture between General Electric and Wal-Mart to sell, deliver and install appliances wherein GE warehouses, delivers and installs the appliances for retailers like Wal-Mart.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott L. Jarrett whose telephone number is (571) 272-7033. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hafiz Tariq can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Scott Jarrett Asst. Examin

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